

In the Supreme Court of Iowa

Request for Public Comment on)
Proposed Updates to the Iowa)
Rules of Professional Conduct)

Order

CLERK SUPREME COURT

In 2005, the Iowa Supreme Court adopted the Iowa Rules of Professional Conduct, chapter 32 of the Iowa Court Rules. The 2005 rules closely followed the American Bar Association's Model Rules of Professional Conduct (Model Rules). Since 2005, the American Bar Association (ABA) has made changes to the Model Rules. The court has determined that the Iowa Rules of Professional Conduct should be updated to reflect the ABA's changes to the Model Rules. The court requests public comment on proposed amendments to chapter 32 of the Iowa Court Rules incorporating updates from the Model Rules.

There are several reasons for updating the Iowa Rules of Professional Conduct to remain consistent with the Model Rules, including that many other jurisdictions have adopted the Model Rules and uniformity with the rules promotes familiarity that Iowa attorneys have with ethical rules in these other jurisdictions where they may practice. In addition, uniformity facilitates legal research of ethical issues and interpretation of ethical obligations.

The court seeks public comment on proposed amendments conforming the Iowa Rules of Professional Conduct with updates to the Model Rules. The overarching aim of the proposed changes is to maintain the high ethical standards traditionally required of attorneys practicing in Iowa.

Copies of the proposed amendments to the Iowa Rules of Professional Conduct are available at:

www.iowacourts.gov/Supreme_Court/Orders/ and are provided with this order. In addition, copies are available at the office of the Clerk of the Supreme Court, Judicial Branch Building, 1111 East Court Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, 50319.

Any interested organization, agency, or person may submit written comments. Comments about a proposed amendment or rule must refer to the specific rule number (for example, Rule 32:1.6(7)) and the specific numbered line or lines to which the comments are directed. Comments sent by email must be emailed to **rules.comments@iowacourts.gov**, must state **"Rules of Professional Conduct"** in the subject line of the email, and must be sent **as an attachment to the email in Microsoft Word format**. Instead of submission by email, comments may be delivered in person or mailed to the Clerk of the Supreme Court, Judicial Branch Building, 1111 East Court Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, 50319.

Any comments received may be posted on the Iowa Judicial Branch website.

The deadline for submitting comments is 4:30 p.m. on October 6, 2015.

Dated this 6th day of August, 2015.

The Supreme Court of Iowa

By Mark S. Cady
Mark S. Cady, Chief Justice